

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments filed April 17, 2008, have been fully considered.
2. Claim 1 is pending and has been examined.

Response to Amendment

3. The following claim drafted by the examiner and considered to distinguish patentably over the art of record in this application, is presented to applicant for consideration:

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1 (currently amended). A computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions that when executed by a processor cause a computer to perform a method for creating a preconfigured network, the method comprising:

- ~~We create~~ creating a plurality of nodes of a TCP/IP ("transmission control protocol / internet protocol") network capable of encrypted communications as follows:
- ~~we install~~ installing a "Slackware" linux distribution an operating system to a target partition of a computer hard drive mass storage device residing in a computer ~~which shall be converted to an iso9660 filesystem (a computer operating system which runs from a Compact Disc Read Only Memory disc ("CDROM"));~~
- ~~we compile~~ compiling an operating system kernel supporting IPSec (Internet Protocol Security) and a plurality of virtual disks a special Linux kernel based on the Linux 2.4 series which has been altered to support the "FreeSWAN

~~(a trade name) Internet Protocol Security~~ ("IPSEC") system for TCP/IP encryption, as well as 8 "ramdisks" (simulation of external mass storage devices in memory) of size 16384 kilobytes each, and

- copying the compiled operating system kernel to the target partition ~~copy this kernel to the target partition;~~
- ~~we copy files associated with, and a product of, the compilation of both the kernel and "FreeSWAN IPSEC" to the target partition;~~
- compiling an authentication server and copying associated files to the target partition;
- ~~we compile the MIT ("Massachusetts Institute of Technology") product Kerberos 5 ("Kerberos system for internet authentication, authorization and security, version series 5") and copy associated files to the target partition;~~
- compiling a domain name service (DNS) server and copying associated files to the target partition;
- ~~we use scripts to generate files which are associated with the "BIND 9 nameserver" (a standard product of the Internet Systems Consortium), to provide the ability to do forward and reverse lookup in DNS ("domain name service", a function of BIND 9 nameserver) and we copy these files to the target partition;~~
- ~~we restart~~ restarting the computer to boot from the target partition;
- initializing the authentication server which will control authentication and authorization functions for the network;

- ~~we use scripts to initialize the "Kerberos KDC" ("Kerberos version series 5 Kerberos Data Center") which will control authentication and authorization functions for the TCP/IP subnet we will create;~~
- ~~we use scripts to create~~ creating instances within the authentication server "Kerberos KDC" of specific host ~~(a host may be any computer with a TCP/IP capability)~~ and user names and passwords;
- ~~we use scripts to generate~~ generating, in a specific directory, multiple unique instances of authentication and authorization information for the authentication server "Kerberos • keytabs" ~~(coded information used by Kerberos for authentication and authorization)~~ each of which is based on information provided by the configuration files for the domain name service (DNS) server "BIND 9 nameserver";
- ~~we use scripts to modify the files "/etc/ipsec.conf" and "/etc/ipsec.secrets" to configure the "FreeSWAN IPSEC" configuring~~ communications parameters for IPsec ~~such as connection name, connection type, and connection start-up and routing as well as to supply "pre-shared key" (an encryption feature and authentication method of "FreeSWAN IPSEC") and lists of IP ("internet protocol") addresses to which that pre-shared key may apply;~~
- configuring start-up parameters for the operating system;
- ~~we modify and add start-up script files in the directory "/etc/rc.d" to ensure proper start-up of all systems at boot time;~~
- configuring the authentication server;

Art Unit: 2136

- ~~we modify the file "/etc/inetd.conf" to activate functions of "Kerberos 5" to operate as needed;~~
- ~~we generate and write a file "/root/.krb5_login" to allow superuser access via "Kerberos 5" authenticated login method;~~
- ~~configuring the operating system loader;~~
- ~~we generate or modify the file "/etc/lilo.conf" to properly configure the "LILO" Linux Kernel Bootloader and then we operate the bootloader in configuration mode to set up the boot sector and boot directories of the filesystem;~~
- rebooting to an original instance of the operating system to begin per-node generation of iso9669 disc images to be written to storage media;
- ~~we reboot to the original instance of the operating system to begin the per-node generation of the iso9660 images which will be written to CDROM media;~~
- moving the authentication and authorization information for the authentication server from the target partition to a local directory;
- ~~we move the individual "Kerberos 5 keytabs" from the target partition to a local directory;~~
- copying target partition to a processing partition;
- ~~we copy all files from the target partition to a "processing partition" which serves as the template from which the iso9660 images will be generated;~~

Art Unit: 2136

- iteratively generate unique iso9669 image information, including internet protocol (IP) address, hostname information, and routing information for the plurality of nodes, from the processing partition and write it to storage media.
- ~~we use scripts which iteratively overwrite in multiple passes to add to this "processing partition": useuname, group and permissions information, ".krb5_login" information and the appropriate "Kerberos 5 keytab" as well as an appropriate "/etc/krb5.conf" file to identify the appropriate "Kerberos KDC", IP ("Internet Protocol") address and network configuration information including designation of appropriate "DNS nameserver" and routing information, and then~~
- ~~we generate the iso9660 image and write it to CDROM media, repeating until all units comprised in this network are finished being generated and written.~~

2. (cancelled)

Information Disclosure Statement

4. It is noted that no Information Disclosure Statement has been filed on this application.
5. In June 2004, the USPTO ceased mailing paper copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications with all Office actions. See "USPTO to Provide Electronic Access to Cited U.S. Patent References with Office Actions and Cease Supplying Paper Copies," 1282 O.G. 109 (May 18, 2004). Foreign patent documents and non-patent literature will continue to be provided to the applicant on paper.

6. All U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are available free of charge from the USPTO web site (www.uspto.gov/patft/index.html), for a fee from the Office of Public Records (<http://ebiz1.uspto.gov/oems25p/index.html>), and from commercial sources. Copies are also available at the Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries (PTDLs). A list of the PTDLs may be found on the USPTO web site (www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/ptdl/ptdlib_1.html). Additionally, a new feature in the Office's Private Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR), E-Patent Reference, is available for downloading and printing of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications cited in U.S. Office Actions.

STEPS TO USE THE E-PATENT REFERENCE FEATURE

7. Access to Private PAIR is required to utilize E-Patent Reference. If you do not already have access to Private PAIR, the Office urges practitioners and applicants not represented by a practitioner to: (1) obtain a no-cost USPTO Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) digital certificate; (2) obtain a USPTO customer number; (3) associate all of their pending and new application filings with their customer number; (4) install free software (supplied by the Office) required to access Private PAIR and the E-Patent Reference; and (5) make appropriate arrangements for Internet access.

Instructions for performing the 5 steps:

Step 1: Full instructions for obtaining a PKI digital certificate are available at the Office's Electronic Business Center (EBC) web page (www.uspto.gov/ebc/downloads.html). Note that a notarized signature will be required to obtain a digital certificate.

Step 2: To get a Customer Number, download and complete the Customer Number Request form, PTO-SB/125, from the USPTO web site (www.uspto.gov/web/forms/sb0125.pdf). The completed form can be transmitted by facsimile to the Patent Electronic Business Center at (571) 273-0177, or mailed to the address on the form. If you are a registered attorney or agent, your registration number must be associated with your customer number. This association is accomplished by adding your registration number to the Customer Number Request form.

Step 3: A description of associating a customer number with the correspondence address of an application is described at the EBC Web page (www.uspto.gov/ebc/registration_pair.html).

Step 4: The software for electronic filing is available for downloading at www.uspto.gov/ebc. Users can also contact the EFS Help Desk at (571) 272-4100 and request a copy of the software on compact disc. Users will also need Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available through a link from the USPTO web site.

Step 5: Internet access will be required which applicants may obtain through a supplier of their own choice. As images of large documents must be downloaded, high-speed Internet access is recommended.

8. The E-Patent Reference feature is accessed using a button on the Private PAIR screen. Ordinarily all of the cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication references will be available over the Internet using the Office's new E-Patent Reference feature. The size of the references to be downloaded will be displayed by E-Patent Reference so the download time can be estimated. Applicants and registered practitioners can select to download all of the references or any combination of cited references. Selected references will be downloaded as complete documents in Portable Document Format (PDF). The downloaded documents can be viewed and printed using commercially available software, such as ADOBE® READER®. ADOBE® READER® is available free of charge from Adobe Systems Incorporated (www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readmain.html).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

9. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

10. Claim 1 is rejected as failing to define the invention in the manner required by 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

11. The claim(s) are narrative in form and replete with indefinite and functional or operational language. The structure which goes to make up the device must be clearly

Art Unit: 2136

and positively specified. The structure must be organized and correlated in such a manner as to present a complete operative device. The claim(s) must be in one sentence form only. Note the format of the claims in the patent(s) cited. Please see the amended draft claim above.

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID CERVETTI whose telephone number is (571)272-5861. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday.

13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser Moazzami can be reached on (571)272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

14. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David García Cervetti/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2136